

# CALIFORNIA

# BULLETIN

## LIBRARY

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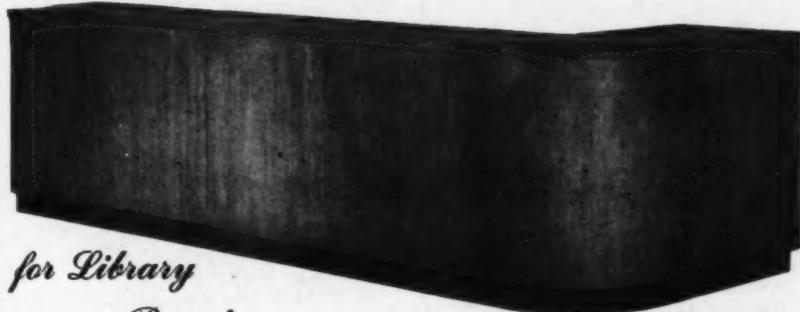
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DECEMBER 1948

# CALIFORNIA LIBRARY BULLETIN

VOLUME 10

DECEMBER 1948

NUMBER 2

Howard M. Rowe, CLA President  
Edwin T. Coman, Pres.-Elect

Neal Harlow, Editor  
Mrs. W. R. Yelland, Executive Secretary

## EDITOR'S SOLILOQUY

LIBRARY MEETINGS fascinate us. Whether we see there a true cross-section of the library world we don't know, but we are enlivened by the view. Conventions attract a wide gamut of library personalities, from devotees of the patient art of cataloging to congenial members of the tap-room set. We look into eyes that shine and into those with faint luster. We hear quiet expressions of conviction, statements of seasoned assurance, occasional irreverent quips, and sober discourse. From breakfast to banquet agendas turn, after which people drop out of their routines like bombers from a formation. We can't follow any considerable number of librarians from that point, but we suspect that we should know more about our colleagues as people if we did. Librarianship has a serious mission, to disseminate ideas and encourage the process of thinking, but it is no monkish calling requiring vows of separation from the world. Earthy roots invigorate our too close association with classifiers' codes and subject indexes and may, with adequate salaries, a yen for public service, and devotion to our stock-in-trade, make a profession of us yet.

Most of us attribute too little importance to the *commercials* at conventions. This garrulous clan of publishers, manufacturers, and tradesmen provides the background of books, library equipment, and supplies that gives the look of authenticity to professional meetings, and sets the convenient stage for casual talk and rendezvous. They can usually be distinguished from the librarians; basking in a limelight of their own making, they play simultaneously the contradictory roles of host and hostage, and seem to thrive on this diverse psychic fare. Personally, we like their enthusiasm, good will, and support, and if they can sell these amiable qualities, along with their more staple goods, to any needy librarians, we'll eat the advertising literature right out of their hands.

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The *BULLETIN* is published in September, December, March, and June by the California Library Association and is distributed to members. Copy deadline 5th of month preceding publication. Average circulation 2200. Subscription price for non-members \$1 a year; single copies 25¢. Correspondence regarding subscriptions and advertising should be addressed to the Executive Secretary, 829 Coventry Road, Berkeley 7, California; editorial correspondence and news should be sent to the Editor, University of California Library, Los Angeles 24.

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The fiscal, membership, and conference years are the calendar year.

The Constitution and By-Laws (last published in the *Bulletin* of December 1945), with revisions (see September 1948 issue), will be published shortly.

DECEMBER 1948

## CALIFORNIA'S INTELLECTUAL CENTENNIAL

By JOHN WALTON CAUGHEY

THE CALIFORNIA INTELLECT a hundred years old? Frontier communities are generally characterized by cultural poverty. The sparse population is occupied with elemental tasks which leave little energy for the luxuries of art and letters. Early American colonists produced homespun, pine furniture, and pewter which now appeal to our sense of the aesthetic, and they are responsible for such treasured landmarks as the Mayflower Compact and Thanksgiving, but their life was pretty stark, and it is not easy to cite a painting or a poem or a novel. Similarly, the society symbolized by Daniel Boone and the long rifle offered the content for epic treatment, but it did not immediately produce that kind of writing; farther west and later, the sod-house frontier set up another literary theme, but the prairie farmers had to set their hands to the plow rather than to the pen or brush. However, Dr. Caughey shows, California a hundred years ago was more than hardships and gold strikes—it was the scene of an awakening in culture, the beginning of our modern society. Dr. Caughey, Professor of American History at UCLA, is a writer of distinction on the Western American scene and speaks with authority on its cultural problems of yesterday and today.

THROUGH ITS FIRST three centuries of recorded history, from Cabrillo to American annexation, California was a normal and therefore a culturally benighted frontier. The missions, besides giving some attention to art and music, did introduce a massive architecture well suited to the land. Occasional officers wrote reports that display a modicum of literary merit. In the dance, in guitar strumming and improvisation of song, and above all in the artistry of horsemanship, the pastoral Californians injected grace into a life that otherwise would have been drab. Non-Spanish recruits—hide droghers, beaver trappers, traders, settlers, and soldiers—contributed to California's store of business skill, political aptitude, and military confidence, but they were not ideally selected to improve the level of culture. Then came the forty-niners. Bearded and

booted, uniformed in slouch hat and red shirt, accoutered every one with six-shooter and Bowie knife, they do not look like the intellectual type.

The public celebrations now upon us inevitably stress pioneer hardships, flag raisings, gold strikes, waves of migration, and other such material factors. In the midst of this commotion there is hazard that we shall lose sight of the cultural and intellectual awakening that was equally a feature of this golden age.

For this was the time when the first American schools opened in California, when churches of the prevailing American type sprang up, and when an American theater began to play. This was when newspaper publishing began: at Monterey, at San Francisco, and a couple of years later more papers as far away as Los Angeles and San Diego. Before long these papers were supplemented by journals that professed to be literary—the *Golden Era*, the *Pioneer*, the *Californian*, and eventually the *Overland*.

Nor is it much of an exaggeration to say that this same epoch marked the beginning of the books. True enough, there had been a certain amount of earlier book publishing about California. By making the definition loose enough to include Lower California, one can count Burriel's (*Venegas*) *Noticias*, Baegert's *Nachrichten*, Clavigero's *Storia*, and Forbes' *History of California*. If the criterion is further loosened to make room for a book with just a few pages on California, one can count still other works, which may be lumped in four categories: (1) round-the-world narratives which report a California stopover: for example, Lapérouse, Vancouver, Kotzebue, Duhaut-Cilly, Beechey, De Mofras, Simpson, and Wilkes; (2) accounts by voyagers who went only halfway

round the world, notably Shaler's description and Richard Henry Dana's *Two Years Before the Mast*; (3) certain narratives of overland travel such as James Ohio Pattie's *Narrative*, Zenas Leonard's *Adventures*, John Bidwell's *Journey*, and John C. Frémont's *Report*; and (4) finally, a few books more specifically, perhaps exclusively, California. The two principal examples are Francisco Palou's *Vida del . . . Junípero Serra* and one by a long-time resident of Santa Barbara, Alfred Robinson's *Life in California*.

To acquire these books today would require a five-figure expense account, but to accommodate the parts that pertain to California a very short shelf would do.

At the present time we are witnessing, with nothing more than a hundred years of history as the inspiration, what some call a publishers' California gold rush. Just such a publishing rush occurred a century ago. The publishing business then was by no means so highly competitive and certainly far less seried, but observe what happened.

First, there were reprints of California titles already on the lists. Edwin Bryant's *What I Saw in California*, for example, went through seven printings in 1848 and 1849.

Second, since California a century ago was about as unfamiliar as the Solomons in 1941 or Oak Ridge on the eve of Hiroshima, a diggers' handbook, with hints on how to get there and what to expect on arrival, looked like a publication that would sell. The thing was attempted, not once or twice, but 25 or 30 times before the end of '48. One such guide (Simpson's) purports to be by a soldier who had served in California, had washed \$50,000 from streambeds lined with gold "to the thickness of a hand." It did not explain why Simpson quit the diggings, but in four pages it outlined six ways of getting to the gold fields. Another (Roberts') argued for the Mormon trail but was primarily a religious tract and a pros-

pectus for the Joint Stock Mutual Insurance Merchandizing Company. A Britisher charted an impractical course by steamer up the sandy Rio Grande, then by Acoma, Zuñi, Oraibe, and Las Vegas to the "Pueblo de los Angeles"! Interspersed between poems entitled "Gold" and "The California Cry," one Daniel Walton printed a California version of "Susannah," an erroneous explanation of the origin of California's name, and two pieces of advice: (1) "stay at home," and (2) take a supply of dimes which pass two for a quarter in San Francisco.

In Leipzig, Paris, Sydney, and Chicago other guides issued from the presses. The best of the lot was hack-written by a St. Louis newspaperman, Joseph E. Ware. He had never been out on the plains, but he did a fine job of borrowing (or plagiarizing) from the most reliable sources. These guides alone bulk larger than all earlier Californiana.

As a third phase of the publishers' gold rush, California narratives were snapped up when offered. These included such dry items as Theodore Johnson's *Sights in the Gold Region*, and better polished works such as E. Gould Buffum's *Six Months in the Gold Mines*, Bayard Taylor's *Eldorado*, Friederich Gerstacker's *Narrative*, and Carl Meyer's *Nach dem Sacramento*. In New York, London, and Cincinnati appeared cartoon or comic-book histories of the gold rush experiences of characters like Jeremiah Saddlebags and "X.O.X." of the "Get All You Can Mining Association."

In London also appeared *Four Months Among the Gold-Finders in Alta California, Being the Diary of an Expedition from San Francisco to the Gold Districts*, by J. Tyrwhitt Brooks, M. D. "The book is well written," says H. H. Bancroft, "and the author's observations are such as command respect." Too true. Immediately popular, it was promptly reissued in New York and, in translation, in Amsterdam, Hamburg, and Paris. Historians have reckoned it one of the best descriptions of the northern diggings

in '48 and have relied on it heavily. In 1893, however, Henry Vizetelly disclosed that J. Tyrwhitt Brooks was a fabrication and his experiences synthetic if not fictional. On the basis of notices from California he and another London journalist had gotten into the fevered spirit of the times and had perpetrated this amiable fraud.

Meanwhile, on the roads to California and in California, writing and publishing flourished suddenly and remarkably. Countless letter writers and diarists put on paper a record for posterity. Some of the most illuminating, for example the monumental journals of J. Goldsborough Bruff, were not to find their way into print until almost a century later. Others got earlier attention.

Felix Paul Wierzbicki authored what is usually cited as San Francisco's first book, *California as It Is and as It May Be* (1849). Alonzo Delano, storekeeper and express agent, wrote take-offs on the miners, a light drama called "A Live Woman in the Mines," and a graphic account of his trip across the plains.

George Derby turned aside from his career as practical jester and army officer to do a series of pieces for the *Pioneer*. One proposed and illustrated a number system for more exact measurement of adjectives and adverbs. Another, parodying the reports of military reconnaissances then the rage, plotted a course through canyons and deserts, and among baffling natives, which turned out to be the streets and street urchins of San Francisco. The same journal printed the sensitive portrayal of life in the mines that we know as the Shirley letters.

With Ina Coolbrith, Prentice Mulford, Charles Stoddard, Mark Twain, Bret Harte, and, in due course, the *Overland* it would be easy to multiply these examples. To the belles lettres that they represent must also be added published sermons, legal tracts, handbooks of information on the resources

and products of the West, thrillers on Indian captivities and western badmen, a history of the state, and a pair of anthologies of Pacific poetry. But I do not need to belabor the rapid upwelling of California writing and California publishing: we are about to be regaled with a ten-dollar catalog of some 4,200 items of Californiana in print before 1860, a good fraction of them California imprints.

Such are the facts about writing and publishing in early California. A historian, of course, is not content to stop with the record of what happened. He also must ask why? and what of it?

As to why, a one-word answer suggests itself—gold. True enough, literary achievement does not ordinarily seem to be forthcoming in a society that is hopelessly impoverished. For the individual there is such a thing as being so depressed by poverty, so tied to manual labor, to teaching duties, I suppose even to library work, that writing does not get done. Yet the best writing does not always come from the other side of the tracks, and it is not convincing to explain all this writing by the mere kiss of gold.

The fact is that California possessed much more. It had a mellifluous name, magnificent scenery, an unusual and arresting climate. With Spanish galleons and Sir Francis Drake, the Franciscan missions, limitless ranchos, guitars and señoritas, it offered a romantic past. All this gave the Argonauts a sense of participating in an exciting, exotic drama.

They were equally certain that they were engaged in a work that would prove historic. A great deal of this writing was motivated by a feeling that there was content worth communicating, something that friends and contemporaries would be interested to read, something that posterity would recognize as the stuff of history. How right they were!

Furthermore, in the succeeding epochs that reach up to the present, California has continued to exert these same three

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stimuli to writing. The wealth of gold has been succeeded by even greater wealth in wheat, in wine and oranges, in oil and tourists and industry. Marvels of nature unappreciated by the gold rush generation have been brought to light. And these features, coupled with such man-made wonders as the transcontinental railroads, the aqueducts, the bay bridges, the Big Sur highway, and the successive booms have made the American century at least as dramatic as what came earlier.

In the making of history, too, there has been no falling off. Consider merely the state's rise to first place in agricultural production and the role played in shipbuilding, airplane manufacture, and troop training during the Second World War.

I need not remark that throughout this American century California writing has shown a steady increase in quantity and advance in quality. Creative work improved in the hands of Frank Norris, George Sterling, and Jack London, and still more so when practiced by such as Robinson Jeffers and John Steinbeck. In non-fiction Hubert Howe Bancroft and Henry George did things far more ambitious than what was attempted by the gold rush reporters, and, in certain brackets at least, today's writers have made further improvements.

This the gold rush beginning was not just a *flash in the pan*. On the contrary, in things cultural and intellectual as well as in agriculture, business, and government, it proved the cornerstone for much that has since been erected. As librarians will doubtless be the quickest to understand, this beginning of the books is not something parked a hundred years in the past, but a vital element in the stream of history of which the present is also a part.

Today, in certain quarters, it looks as though the centennial of the beginning of the books was to be celebrated by an ending of the books. One of these quarters, I am ashamed to say, is the county

in which I am a taxpayer. There four of the five county supervisors, in apparent ignorance of the duties and responsibilities of the library profession, have voted to censor book purchases by the County Library. With unusual frankness one supervisor justified this step as a move "against liberal views we don't like."

Although one newspaper made editorial comment that said in substance, "Don't burn the books; fire the librarian," another, much more cogently, branded this sort of censorship with a word, which in recent use has had its meaning hopelessly distorted — un-American. Library censorship is not to be tolerated in a free society.

Usually when the mace of censorship falls it is on the heads of speakers or writers or teachers, who can muster a measure of courage because the ideas they want to voice are their own. Now librarians, who are the custodians of the race's wisdom and ideas but seldom its mouthpieces, are thrust into martyrdom in the cause of freedom to think and of freedom to learn.

I do not want to egg any librarian on toward martyrdom. But I do offer the consolation that, in this world's affairs, in the end (was it Ambrose Bierce who said) "Time wounds all heels." History will take care of those who obstruct the truth, block exchange of ideas, burn the books, and harry the advocates of enlightenment.

History has no praise for book burners Torquemada and Bishop Landa. History now condemns the Alien and Sedition Acts of the 1790's. It is well along toward the same verdict on the Criminal Syndicalism laws that were epidemic after the First World War. It already disapproves the grosser abuses of the Dies-Thomas committee and its local counterpart. In time it will catch up, just as inexorably, with the current persecution of liberalism.

## HOW BOOKISH ARE LIBRARIANS?

By FREDERICK A. WEMMER

DOES HE THAT LENDS BOOKS go unread himself? Librarians, generally, seem to think so, for an average reply to an inquiry about a librarian's personal reading is prefaced with an apology about not reading more. Do we read less than might be expected? Do we, perhaps, read less than the public we serve? Stirred by a librarian's jocular comment that if the community read as little as its librarian during the past year it would hardly have been worth while to keep the library open, Fred Wemmer sent letters to 242 California librarians, inquiring about their current non-professional reading, to which 155 replies were received. He summarizes his findings below, admitting that his record for bookishness is much like our own, "not impressive, but, on the other hand, not exactly discouraging." Wemmer, librarian of the Sacramento County Library, was formerly head of the Solano County Library, is an alumnus of the UC School of Librarianship, and a former staff member of the Kern County Free Library.

MOST OF US would undoubtedly be better librarians for being less devoted to books than was our illustrious predecessor Adrian Baillet who, according to Holbrook Jackson, died at the age of fifty-seven, "a librarian of unparalleled diligence and sagacity." Baillet, it is remarked in the *Anatomy of Bibliomania*, wholly lived and died for books, having no life apart from them. He treated his body as a recalcitrant and insolent enemy, not suffering it to rest more than five hours a night or to take more than one meal a day. He took no wine, never came near the fire, and walked out of doors but once a week, in the end growing mighty in memory but degenerate physically, a hideous sight to all beholders.

"For some time I have been quite sure that the modern librarian does not know how to read, and that the modern library school never has a book inside its portals" read one reply to the inquiry about librarians' reading sent to California librarians—a letter from an individual who apparently felt that librarians are not too passionately devoted to books. "If you can disprove

any of this pessimism, I shall be delighted."

What is the status of reading among librarians? Replies to 242 questionnaires sent to municipal, county, and university librarians were 64 percent complete. Those coming from small institutions were most numerous and satisfying. From university librarians came only one response, which may indicate that the group disapproves of questionnaires or, perhaps, doesn't like to read. 65 percent of the librarians read from 5 to 100 books a year, 25 percent read from 100 to 200, and 9 percent read over 200 books a year. From a low of 5 books a year to a high of 500, the average reading per person is 87 books a year, or 1.6 a week, an average unhappily low. Between fiction and non-fiction the choice is about half and half, 54 percent to 46 percent respectively.

How much time is spent in reading? A difficult estimate to make. Remarked one of the answering librarians, "Logan Pearsall Smith's grandfather, who as librarian in Philadelphia read eight hours a day for forty years, had the right idea." Some of us today may have the right idea but not the time. It appears that our average reading time runs to two hours a day, 14 hours a week; actually the figure comes to just a fraction under this. The least amount of time estimated per week is three hours, with three people reporting that amount, and the greatest amount is 42 hours, reported by one individual.

Do we read any old titles? A third of the reporting librarians state that they do read non-current material, half of this group reporting 10 percent of all their reading is of old titles, and one replying that 75 percent of his reading is of non-current works. Almost no one reports re-reading any book; apparently we do not dawdle over old favorites.

Do we concentrate on special fields? There were 65 fields or subjects re-

ported, ranging from archaeology to psychic investigation. Biography leads with 34 readers, travel next with 29, then comes historical fiction with 24, history 12, mysteries 11, political science 9, and art 7, others trailing with five or fewer tallies. Interest in a particular author to the extent of reading all works by and about him is widely professed. 41 authors were named, only four of whom received more than one count: Maugham with 5, and Steinbeck, Dickens, and Cather with two each.

Among periodicals 91 were listed as read consistently. *Time* is first with 70 readers, *Life* has 59, the *Readers' Digest* 53, the *New Yorker* 41, *Harper's* 24, *Newsweek*, *Atlantic*, and *Sunset* 21 each, and the *Saturday Evening Post* and *Vogue* 18.

It is not strange that all reporting librarians borrow books from their libraries. Only eight indicated that they rent books, and 37 that some books are purchased. Of those who buy books an extremely small number patronize the book clubs: one subscribes to the Book of the Month Club, two to the Literary Guild, and one to the Book Find Club.

"Do you feel," was the last question, "as many librarians appear to do, that 'I ought to read more, but haven't time,' or do you think your reading is sufficient and adequate?" 21 feel their reading is satisfactory, and from the reading they report it would seem that their belief is justified. The remaining 134 librarians replied, with various qualifications, that they would like to read more. Not that they *ought* to do more reading, perhaps, but that they *want* to read more and, for lack of time, find it impracticable. One librarian's estimate accounted for 171 of her available 168 hours a week, of which 15 hours went to reading. She felt that "the mechanics of living" eat too heavily into the life of a working woman, more seriously than into a man's schedule; and isn't it "important that librarians live and be people?" Most men, with normal domestic and social instincts and duties, also spend a con-

siderable number of hours with "the mechanics of living."

Quality of reading is more significant than quantity, and the fact that 155 librarians represent 65 fields of interest and read 91 periodicals is evidence of a lively intellectual curiosity in this group. What are California librarians reading in 1948? Of 155 librarians, 36 responded with lists, showing the following leaders: Gunther, *Inside U.S.A.*, Liebman, *Peace of Mind*, and Hobson, *Gentlemen's Agreement*, were listed eight times; Byrnes, *Speaking Frankly*, and Costain, *The Honeymoon*, appeared seven times; and Levy, *920 O'Farrell Street*, and Lockridge, *Raintree County*, came third with six listings. Other titles were listed five times or less. Although we may expect to find some similarity in reading, particularly in new and important books, the listing of 390 non-fiction titles, by 341 authors, and of 422 fiction titles, by 371 authors, shows a fine variety of interests among California librarians. Obviously we are not in a rut, all reading the same books. The ratio of 54 percent fiction to 46 percent non-fiction contrasts with the average circulation of 70 percent to 30 percent fiction and non-fiction in most public libraries.

Although the reading inquiry did not segregate men from women, internal evidence (such as the lists of periodicals read) and preliminary inquiries make it appear that women read more than the men who replied. Gray and Munroe, in their *Reading Interests and Habits of Adults*, report that women read almost twice as many books as men, and do it in less time, and my inconclusive data seem to bear this out.

How does the reading of these librarians compare with that done by other people? Gray and Munroe quote statistics from two surveys, one showing the average reading of 314 people to be nine books a year, the other survey placing it as low as three to four books a year for a second group. The same authors' statistics for people grouped by occupations indicate that teachers read

a book a week, but clerks read only eight a year, and the agricultural group, at the bottom, read .23 a year. These figures are about twenty years old and the quantity of reading may have increased generally, but librarians seem to be doing as well as teachers and better by far than the general population.

A more recent survey by L. H. Kirkpatrick, Librarian of the University of Utah, was reviewed in "How Narrow are the Specialists?" in *School and Society* for September 21, 1946. Mr. Kirkpatrick reports the results of a questionnaire sent to 300 scholars selected from such lists as *American Men of Science*. 92 replies were received, of which 44 were from scientists and 48 from what are classified as "humanist-educators." Among the humanists the most omnivorous reader read 1.6 titles a week, the average we found for California librarians, and the top reader among the scientists read slightly less than a book a week. In regard to quality there was little distinction between the groups, and Mr. Kirkpatrick suggests that the variety of titles listed "indicates either extreme individuality or else considerable random choice," a comment that might well be made about the librarians' lists. *Time*, *Readers' Digest*, *Harper's*, *Life*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, and the *New Yorker* head the periodicals list, very similar to the librarians' choice.

Librarians, of course, may have more difficulty than do most people in distinguishing between reading as a library activity and for pleasure. The two unquestionably merge in many instances. Taken without consideration for the professional need for knowledge of books, it is no more imperative for the librarian to read than it is for other people, nor can we claim that we are more burdened with required reading than are other professional groups. However, librarians who deal with the public are certainly under great pressure to keep up with new publications and to be informed about older titles. Librarians in the juvenile field, particularly,

must read extensively in juvenile literature, cutting down on the time left for general reading. Reading on the job is philosophically sound, but where is the library that is sufficiently staffed to allow it in practice?

It should be noted that librarians generally may know too little about rapid reading and consequently waste time which might otherwise be spent in more pleasurable reading.

It is probably a misconception that librarians are "literary." Only four of those polled here list some field of literature as a special subject interest. Perhaps we have become indifferent to the literary treasures among which we spend our lives. We may have come to regard books as packaged commodities. Some years ago someone wrote that it was about as reasonable to become a librarian because one liked to read as it was to become a waiter because he liked food. There are grains of truth in all of these suppositions, but the explanation may not be found so much in indifference as in the ever accelerating tempo of living, about which Henry Adams pondered. As librarians our record for bookishness is not impressive but respectable—and we express a desire to read more. The record must be improved if we are to secure a reputation for "diligence and sagacity."

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY PROJECT

Librarians contributing to the projected *Bibliography of California County and Local Histories* who did not include lists of holdings of local directories in their first reports should send them in as soon as possible. This data, plus any information about additional items pertaining to county and city history, should be mailed promptly to Ethel Blumann, Reference Department, Oakland Public Library, Oakland 12. The bibliographical project is being pushed rapidly to completion by its sponsors, the Northern Division of the CLA Committee on Regional Cooperation.

## THE STATUS OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

THE CLA COMMITTEE on Intellectual Freedom, organized in 1940 by no less a champion of the free library than Helen E. Haines, has stood its ground—for the most part alone among state library organizations—against the imposition of restrictions upon library service through censorship of collections or the suppression of particular books. Following its lead, twenty new state committees have been formed this year, and the ALA Annual Conference in June 1948 devoted much of its schedule to the cause of intellectual freedom. Across the country, individual librarians, library boards, citizens, columnists, commentators, and many types of organizations are rising against current attempts to stifle free inquiry and expression, but the battle may go a good deal harder with us before it is won unless we increase our vigilance and fighting strength. Miriam Matthews, chairman, and Evelyn Benagh, Helen Bourne, and John E. Smith, members of our Committee on Intellectual Freedom, present a joint statement concerning the present status of intellectual freedom, particularly as it pertains to libraries and reading.

THE FUTURE of intellectual freedom is in jeopardy; and in many ways our future depends upon intellectual freedom. Current attacks upon liberal ideas and publications, inquisitorial legislative investigations, and frequent attempts to curtail academic freedom belie our much touted belief in democracy and a free society.

The fight to maintain our basic freedoms in time of peace is often ignored by citizens who would offer their services unselfishly for the same cause in time of war. We need not look easterly at the Philadelphia book raids nor at the banning of the *Nation* on the Atlantic seaboard to find examples of trampled freedom worthy of our ire.

A few months ago a local California college library administration was accused of "pro-Communist" leanings in its book selections — about the same time that Czechoslovakian libraries were being subjected to wholesale censorship tactics under another ideological pattern. In September the Los Angeles County

Board of Supervisors voted to appoint an advisory committee to censor book purchases throughout its library system, and the denial by the library authorities of the various charges with which they were assailed in the public press received but scant attention in the newspapers of the region.

Magruder's *National Governments and International Relations* was withdrawn from the public schools of a southern California city because the definitions of "capitalism" and "socialism" were disapproved by a few parents. It was returned the next semester with an insert limiting the terms to their European application, not to be construed "as having any relationship to our American ideals . . ."

A two-year controversy, including two state legislative investigations, succeeded in cutting off public funds for the purchase of the *Building America* textbook series, although parts of the set had already been legally adopted as a state series and had been vigorously defended by the State Department of Education.

California librarians have not been silent or timid in reacting to such attacks. Resolutions opposing censorship and protesting repressive loyalty investigations have been adopted; the *Building America* series has been defended, principally through the widespread distribution of the pamphlet, *The Right to Find Out*, prepared by the San Bernardino County Library staff to point out the techniques used to discredit the publications in California; and two bills have been successfully opposed to amend the state Education Code to eliminate public school instruction in sex and marriage problems and to prohibit the introduction of controversial subjects in the classroom.

The CLA Committee on Intellectual Freedom has secured publicity for its  
*(Continued on page 65)*

## A SURVEY SURVEYED

By DAVID W. DAVIES

A LIBRARY SURVEY is made for a variety of purposes—to acquaint a new librarian with his job, or to get rid of an old one. It may be intended to educate a board of trustees or to measure the capacity of an administrator. And it may be undertaken with the sole purpose of improving techniques, or services, or book collections. A survey may be carried out by a team of outside experts, a faculty group, or the library staff. If its purpose is to some extent propaganda, then the calling in of outside experts has much to recommend it, aside from the expert criticism received. But if the survey is to improve techniques or services, a job done by the library staff itself has great advantages. The self-survey was the choice at Claremont, where four colleges, four separate library budgets, and three libraries complicate the administrative and procedural picture. David Davies, Librarian of Pomona, Claremont, and Claremont Men's colleges, formerly Director of Libraries at the University of Vermont, and Librarian of Utah State Agricultural College, squeezes the significant lessons out of Associated Colleges' recent survey experience and passes them along to us, with useful admonitions in case we are survey-minded or survey bent.

**W**HAT of the Claremont libraries' survey? Was it worth while? Is the self-survey a project that would be recommended to other college staffs?

A self-examination such as has been carried out at Claremont does seem eminently worth making. It is not a bad experience to write down a list of things a librarian does each day and have his colleagues ask why he does them. And the reading, the discussion, the visits to other libraries which such a survey entails constitute a vivifying and intellectually stimulating experience.

Making allowances for the kindly tolerance one often has for his own activity—the Claremont survey was a good survey, a piece of work well done. Of course some mistakes were made, and a candid admission of them here ought to help others to avoid them.

The easiest error to make is to suppose that a knowledge of the best way of doing a task can be obtained simply by reading or observing how the job is done in other libraries. Such a supposi-

tion induced the busy gathering of data, and at times the gathering of data far beyond what was needed.

Mr. Ralph Beals, of the New York Public Library, has a predilection for attacking problems by reading Plato. We should have read Plato. Specifically we should have read that part of the *Phaedo* where Socrates demonstrates that observation, or gathering of data, is not enough. Therein he reasons that if from two stones apparently equal we gather an idea of equality which is different from either of them, then there is something other than observation which gives us wisdom. Translated into modern terms, one might look at a thousand houses in the old section of San Francisco or in a new Los Angeles subdivision without ever once gaining a conception of what an ideal house would be. Or, even more pointedly, we might listen to a thousand radio programs without once arriving at a conception of what an ideal radio program would be. Admonition No. 1 is that in library surveys one does not necessarily arrive at a conception of what is best by observing what has been done. At Claremont it was remarkable how comparatively little surveying was needed when the little was coupled with some thought about the objective in mind.

Coupled with the fault of surveying more than was necessary was the fault of surveying where none was necessary at all. It is a mistake others have made, and it is more pleasant here to note the superfluous work done by others rather than that done by ourselves. In one instance a very fine surveying team was hired to survey a geographical area, and, after spending due time in thought, one of its recommendations was that a union catalog of libraries in the area be created, pointing out how useful it would be. Now, the manuscript *Registrum librorum Angliae* in the Bodlian Library, compiled between 1250 and 1296, is a union

catalog of 183 monastic libraries. A union catalog has been in the consciousness of men since the Middle Ages and is a concept which an intelligent person might arrive at without too much trouble, without a survey.

Another tendency of surveyors is to consider that action is superior to reading. At Claremont we compiled some fine statistics and debated points when more thorough knowledge of library literature would have made it evident that the data were already gathered, the debatable ground already covered. Again we find an example in surveys other than our own. About twenty years ago the Carnegie Corporation financed what amounted to a survey of public libraries, and the high point in the report was the recommendation that museums, libraries, and art galleries should be clustered together in cultural centers. It was an excellent idea and one now being realized in some cities, but it had been outlined in print just fifty years before the survey by Professor Frieze of the University of Michigan.

A formal self-examination is, however, an experience to be recommended to any staff, if done with care and thoughtfulness. We now feel at Claremont much as did Grandfather Squeers in the verses by James Whitcomb Riley, who, having rounded his three score and ten, said I've got the hang of it now and could do it again.

As to a survey of the book collections, that is something which the Claremont survey did not do and which we do not have the hang of. It would seem that the best way of knowing whether a collection is good or bad would be to ask an expert to tell one whether it is good or bad. The theory is wonderful; the practice involves difficulties. This theory motivated the survey of the book collections of the University of Pennsylvania. The report of that survey was a series of statements by experts which were remarkably alike and which, without too much distortion, might be paraphrased as follows: "In my field the library collections are pretty good, al-

though there are a few more things I would like to have." The University of Chicago survey, conducted in Llewelyn Raney's time on like principles was more successful. There the experts expressed general opinions on the worth of the collections and gave lists of specific titles and sets which were lacking and ought to be purchased. These lists could be used as desiderata.

The faults of even the Chicago type are obvious, particularly in that it attempts to judge whether a collection is good or bad without answering the question, Good for what? A college or university must operate on any one or all of four levels. It must provide books necessary for general education; it must acquire materials for specialized education below the graduate level; where graduate work is offered (as at Claremont), there is need for the general scholarly apparatus necessary for research; and, notably in the humanities and history, the library is called upon to furnish the actual raw materials for research. A distinction ought to be made between scholarly apparatus and raw materials of research. It would be possible to collect all the printed books on a subject and still provide little opportunity for research. A Shakespeare collection made up of ten original Shakespeare letters (if such could be imagined) and ten books chosen by the scholar with the letters in mind would be more of a research library than a collection incorporating the hundred best books on Shakespeare—not the best reference library, but better for research.

A good survey technique would evaluate the book collections with due regard for the purposes they are intended to serve. How can this be done? We could say that 5,000 books are sufficient for the general educational needs, that 50,000 volumes are enough for a four year college, and that 700,000 volumes ought to be enough to furnish the general scholarly apparatus. Please do not scoff at size as a measure of excellence; as Mr. Waples has shown it is not at all a bad measure.

Another way of doing the collection evaluation job would be to check holdings against a list—Shaw's list, Morhardt's list, or, for a research collection, some such list as was used by Waples and Lasswell. But this procedure also measures a collection against an arbitrary standard and still leaves unanswered the question of how adequate and satisfying the collection is to those who use it. Dr. Lewis Stieg, while at Hamilton College, attempted an evaluation technique in terms of actual use. For three years he kept a record of each book borrowed from his library, and an interesting fact was thereby revealed. Hamilton College stood high in holdings on the Shaw list, and yet it was found that only a small part of the circulation was from that list. Checking the holdings against such a list was of slight value for discovering how useful the library was to the students.

Methods of surveying libraries appear to be imperfect. But although they are imperfect and suspect, through their application at Claremont the members of the staff have grown a little, their interests have been mightily stirred, their knowledge of the collections has widened. Many of the great benefits of a library survey accrue to the surveyors and, possibly, cannot be embodied in a report.

### INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

(Continued from page 62)

activities through radio programs, and through editorials and news releases in the *Publisher's Weekly*, *School Review*, the *Library Journal*, NEA Journal, ALA and CLA publications, and in local staff organs. The bulletin, *Intellectual Freedom is every Librarian's Responsibility*, has been distributed to CLA's more than two thousand members, and a convention exhibit illustrating the struggle for intellectual freedom has been prepared. Cooperation has been secured with other groups of a professional and civic nature: the League of Women Voters, California Congress of Parents and Teachers,

the School Librarians Association of California, and others.

The recent courageous stand of the American Library Association on censorship was noted in news and editorial columns from coast to coast, and it has been reinforced by official statements or representatives sent to the National Council on Freedom from Censorship (relating to the Philadelphia bookbanning), to the New York City Board of Education's closed hearings on the Nation ban in the city schools, to the public civil service hearing for Los Angeles County employees who were dismissed for failing to sign the loyalty oath, and to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, protesting its action in setting up a citizens' committee to censor county library book purchases.

The federation of American Scientists, the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the American Association of University Professors, the American Book Publishers Council, the American Physical Society, and the American Association of Social Workers are among the other groups protesting current censorship and suppression of books and ideas.

Individual librarians and local library administrations may need to emulate the positive example of the Toledo Public Library, where reprints of an editorial from the *Toledo Blade* were distributed to patrons, calling attention to the purge of libraries in Czechoslovakia as an example of tyranny over the mind through the regulation of reading, thought, and opinion.

Dr. Robert D. Leigh, speaking on Intellectual Freedom at Atlantic City, reminded us that our loyalty belongs not only to our immediate employer but to the standards of the professional group to which we belong. Our wider responsibility has been well expressed by Charles Seymour, President of Yale University: "Free and untrammeled inquiry is not merely a privilege, it is an obligation that lies upon all educated men in a democracy." Strength and effectiveness lie in the solidarity of the group.

## ACADEMIC LIBRARY NOTES

A QUARTERLY RÉSUMÉ of headline news from college, university, and research libraries throughout California.

**W**RITING in "CU News," Donald Coney opined that the Santa Barbara Conference was one of the best state meetings he had ever attended. I was able to be present only for the last two days, but from what I heard and saw I also went away newly enthusiastic about the state of librarianship in California. It was reassuring to see the Association close ranks and stand as one against censorship.

I also left with the determination as state membership chairman to lend my strongest efforts to bringing more librarians, library workers, and bookmen into the already strong ranks of CLA. I am a grass-rooter and a states-righter to the extent of believing that national strength cannot be built on weak and indifferent local, state, and regional organizations. These are times of dangerous pressures to men of good will; only the strongest and toughest-skinned can stand alone. The rest of us prefer to rally and band together in the powerful, idealistic social movement known as free library service to a free people. We can demonstrate our belief by renewing membership in CLA and by persuading our non-member colleagues to join. Let us take a firm hold of those who, from lack of information or an invitation, or from sheer inertia, are walking singly or disorganized outside the organization and bring them inside CLA.

With that exhortation off our chest, let's see what news the quarter has brought.

The blue ribbon for the best piece of library publishing goes to Dorothy M. Drake, Librarian of Scripps College, for the descriptive pamphlet on the Ida Rust Macpherson Collection of materials on the status, interests and accomplishments of women. Four main fields of concentration are present: (1) Emancipation and Reform, (2) Domestic His-

tory, (3) Westward Expansion, and (4) the Humanist Tradition. The pamphlet consists of essays by several hands and a partial checklist of the thousand-volume collection, and has been beautifully printed by the Ward Ritchie Press.

The Stanford University Library Staff Association now issues a weekly mimeographed Bulletin of library news. An item about Director R. C. Swank's appointment reveals a potential new member of the Brigade of Brokendown Saxophonists Who Blew For Profit not for Pleasure. Two other such blowers are regular contributors to this Bulletin. Any others?

The William Andrews Clark Memorial Library has issued the third volume in its unnumbered series of publications, (catalogers, please note!) "George Stepney's Translation of the Eighth Satire of Juvenal," edited by Professor and Mrs. H. T. Swedenberg, and printed by the University of California Press from the manuscript in the Clark collection.

The autumn Conference of Southern California's academic librarians took place at Caltech's Atheneum, sponsored by the Mount Wilson and Palomar Mountain Observatories Library, and featured Willis Kerr's retrospective report on the Conference's first twenty years.

On the Berkeley campus of the State University several groups joined to sponsor an Institute on Music Librarianship. UC's Music Library received a gift of the holograph manuscript of the Hollywood composer Stravinsky's ballet "Orpheus." At about the same time the UCLA Library's Department of Special Collections announced the receipt from the San Francisco novelist, Clarkson Crane, of manuscripts of three of his books. Down in the middle, Santa Barbara College Librarian Don Davidson in an article in the local press gladly thanked both CU and CLU for donations of books.

Early in November the eight UC head librarians, plus the Dean of the School of Librarianship, forming together the Library Council, held their annual fall meeting on the Mount Hamilton campus, with Astronomer-Librarian *F. J. Neubauer* as host.

From San Luis Obispo's librarian A. A. Whitman comes a printed program of the laying of the cornerstone of Cal Poly's new library building. It is to be a memorial to Walter F. Dexter, state superintendent of education from 1937 until his death in 1945.

The last issue of this Bulletin sanguinely announced the forthcoming occupation of UCLA's east wing. However, occupation was deferred until an Open House was announced for Sunday afternoon, December 5, to be held whether or not the wing was completely finished.

San Jose State College librarian Joyce Backus reports that plans are being prepared for the completion of the library building, one wing of which has been occupied since 1941.

"Sources of Engineering Information," by Blanche H. Dalton, Engineering Librarian, UC Library at Berkeley, was published in September by the UC Press. Designed as a guide for engineers, students, research workers, and librarians, the book refers to data on all types of engineering.

UC Librarian Donald Coney was a member of a panel on Libraries, Books, and Bibliographies which met in Washington, D. C., in September, to prepare recommendations for the US National Commission for UNESCO. The National Commission's conclusions will guide US representatives at the third UNESCO conference. Panel chairman was Luther Evans, and among other members were Ralph Beals, Carl White, Ralph Shaw. Panel recommendations included the promotion of public libraries throughout the world, a basic survey of bibliographical services, promotion of exchange of scholarly publications, and development of a coupon book scheme

to facilitate the international purchase of books.

The correspondence of Thomas O. Larkin, US Consul in California in the days when the state belonged to Mexico, is being prepared for publication in the Bancroft Library under Director George Hammond. The more than 4,000 letters written or received by Larkin, now filling nine leather bound volumes in the Library, will be published by the UC Press as part of the University's contribution to the California Centennial celebration.

Clara Manson is the new Chief Librarian of the Stanford Lane Medical Library. Helen Hernley is the newly appointed librarian of Los Angeles City College. Charles Boorkman is on leave for a year from San Jose State to serve as librarian of Los Angeles State College. Caltech Library's Acting Director, Roger Stanton, reports accessions for 1947-48 up a third over the year before, itself a record year. UCLA also set a record by pushing accessions for the first time beyond the 40,000 mark. Mills College's Associate Librarian Helen Blasdale reports gifts from Mrs. Leon Gelber of Willa Cather and Christopher Morley collections. San Jose State now has more than 4,000 records in its listening collection. At Redlands College, states Librarian Esther Hile, unpacking of the Florence Ayscough and Harley Farnsworth MacNair Far Eastern collection has started.

The USC Library reports the following unusual acquisitions: 750 volumes of regional American poetry, including 119 little magazines; over 300 volumes on slavery in the US, the nucleus of the collection being books from the library of Jacob Merritt Howard, a founder of the Republican Party; and 85 volumes of early records of the colony and state of Connecticut, including the Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society and the Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, 1689-1786.

UCLA Librarian Emeritus John E. Goodwin died unexpectedly of a heart attack on November 18. After having

served as assistant librarian at Stanford from 1905 to 1912 and as head librarian at Texas from 1912 to 1923, Goodwin then took charge of the "Southern Branch" Library of 40,000 books and in two decades of service, until his retirement in 1944, he built the collections to nearly half a million volumes. This aggressive pioneering work was done without fanfare—Goodwin preferred to let the books, the building and the services speak for him.

LAWRENCE CLARK POWELL

#### ALA LIBRARY EDUCATION DIVISION

The Library Education Division of ALA, Miss Hazel Pulling (membership chairman) reminds us, is concerned with solving personnel problems and with improving standards of education for librarianship. Matters of staff development, certification, pensions, and of recruitment, curriculum, and instruction fall within its scope. ALA members interested in these key problems should affiliate with this ALA division.

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## PARTY LINE

**SNATCHES OF TALK**, earphone sketches of ideas and plans—this is the sort of news one picks up on a party line. Here the parties are librarians, and the line runs between California public libraries. Are you on?

**A**NYTHING SO PLEASURABLE as the stay in Santa Barbara for the October meetings of California County Librarians and the CLA was certain to provide happy after-thoughts and chatter—how friendly and hospitable were the “natives,” how well-organized the general sessions, how skilfully the business meeting was dispatched, how attractive and interesting were the exhibits, how entertaining the magician, how jolly the extra-curricular activities.

Even spending money was made a little pleasant by the receipt of crisp, clean greenbacks in change from the local merchants—until late in the week when we turned homeward, regrettfully, with only small jingling piggy-bank stuff in our pockets. Probably the most impressive bargain in town was the 25¢ a day parking area, including in-and-out service, and all conveniently adjacent to the convention meeting halls. Future convention cities please copy!

Santa Barbara provided the convention goers with golden days (including one of its hottest) and balmy evenings; so with morning swims at the beach, hitch-hiking into town from the Miramar, luncheons and teas in flowery patios, and the big evening reception under the stars, visiting delegates were able to enjoy the beautiful surroundings, breathe deeply of the invigorating sea air, and relax effectively between busy sessions. Of course there was the small matter of a channel cruise one afternoon when the fog settled down like a woolly, gray cap over the little boat. Scenery was blotted out by said fog; lunches were tossed about by the bounding main—and those who went on the Garden Tour instead were awfully pleased with themselves.

It did take us until our very last Santa

Barbara afternoon to get some of the good Mexican food that was fragrant on the air during all of those group meals of roast lamb or creamed chicken served to us earlier in the week. And finally we watched the big Saturday afternoon parade, floats and everything, with a brass band piping us out of town and welcoming “Homecomers” to the UCSB campus.

Muriel Mitchell was probably the most surprised librarian in the state when she heard at the convention that she is chairman of the CLA Nominating Committee for the year 1948-49. This duty, you see, rotates among the districts, but no one had warned Muriel that allowing her name on the Mt. Shasta District ballot for consideration as a state nominator would automatically bring chairmanship of the state committee to the “lucky” winner. Sympathetic understanding will pour forth from those who have served on the committee in recent years and know the volume of correspondence and clerical work involved in securing a ticket of nominees for the state association offices. Better keep a watch, President Coman, on Yreka and the northern border of California to see that the busy Miss Mitchell doesn't flee into Oregon.

We (editorially speaking) were the second most surprised when our name was included in the list of commendations offered by the Resolutions Committee to certain institutions and individuals. It is much more pleasant to be commended as one among those still trying to help a bit with this and that, than to be listed in the memorial which followed, a very long list of professional associates who had passed away during the year.

A feather in the cap of Donald Coney for making “good listening” of his concise exposition of “ALA Reorganization and What It Means to CLA.” It really took some digesting to summarize the work of the ALA Fourth Activities

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Committee, of which Dr. Coney is a member. Opinions of our western individualists range all the way from a full endorsement of the ALA decentralization plan to frank disapproval of the idea. Some even find PNLA's resolution to their liking, "favoring the operation of the American Library Association on a national basis rather than on a regional plan of organization," and approve its petition to the ALA Council and Executive Board "to inactivate the Fourth Activities Committee for a period of not less than three years . . ."

The Far West Regional Meeting of ALA members at Vancouver, B.C., next August will give a trial to the tentative plan. Northern California librarians hope, however, that they can still look forward to a regular CLA convention in the fall of 1949, somewhere in the San Francisco Bay area. Not since the California Library Association met at Del Monte in 1941 has there been a general convention of our state association "north of the Tehachapi," while it has been the fortune of southern California librarians to have had three state conventions in their area in the past five years: at Los Angeles, at Coronado and at Santa Barbara.

It is the rank and file of library staff members, rather than head librarians, who miss participating in these annual meetings, except when the convention is held within a short distance from their homes. They rarely get out of the state to attend ALA meetings, either.

If our state association is to continue its strength and fulfill its purpose and significance in relation to the entire membership, many believe that it should now resume the practice of holding annual meetings in northern and southern areas of California in alternate years. We hear more and more murmurings of CLA members in the upper half of our long state, asking for a full-scale northern meeting in 1949. There is talk of writing letters to the Executive Board before its January meeting. See what we mean?

GRACE MURRAY

## LIBRARY PHOTOGRAPHY

A NEWS SUMMARY reporting library filming projects, new photographic equipment, and new, planned, or expanded services of western laboratories.

Fifty-four librarians showed their concern with the problems of conserving newspaper files by attending the session on the Photography of Library Materials during the Santa Barbara convention. Several concise papers explored the importance of newspapers as research materials, the relation of microphotography to conservation programs, the progress being made in carrying out preservation projects in the state, and the photographic facilities planned or available in several California research institutions. It became apparent that the professional and technical problems being raised were too many and too complex for libraries to solve singly and that cooperative effort is essential. Before a comprehensive newspaper conservation program can be realized in California, it was felt that an active committee of CLA should be set up to formulate and direct its operations on a state-wide basis.

The Committee for the Conservation of Newspaper Resources (since appointed) should promote effective co-ordination of the newspaper collection programs in the various libraries, looking towards adequate coverage and a minimum of duplication in the collections. It should assign primary preservation responsibilities, probably on a regional basis, and explore the possibility of creating a union list of western papers or, at least, of acting as a clearing house for information about newspaper microfilm projects. Standards of quality and of procedure might also be established.

Tentative agreements were reached favoring the destruction of rapidly deteriorating newspaper files after microfilming, and approving the lending of positive microfilm copies among libraries.

The tone of the discussions and temper of the participants auger well for cooperative action in this particularly troublesome collecting field.

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## PROCEEDINGS, 50th ANNUAL MEETING SANTA BARBARA, OCTOBER 1948

### "Books to Free Men"

WITHIN A PERIOD of five days, the Santa Barbara meetings (the 50th annual session of the CLA, 38th annual convention of California county librarians, and joint meetings of the northern and southern California chapters of the Music Library Association and of the Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Puget Sound chapters of the Special Libraries Association) accomplished thoroughly their purpose to inspire professional enthusiasm, transact business, and enable librarians to rub elbows socially. Some of the sessions are briefly sketched below, summarized from available notes and reports in the Executive Secretary's office.

**GROUP MEETINGS, October 7.** A panel on Mechanical and Visual Aids, composed of Margaret Klausner, Mary Murdoch, Belle Kellogg, Miss Gaffke, and Albert Lake (chairman), compared the relative merits of various mechanical and photographic charging systems, while representatives of manufacturing firms stood by to answer technical questions regarding commercial equipment. More than 50 members attended the session on the *Photography of Library Materials*; Neal Harlow, William Hawken (chairman), Mabel Gillis, J.A. Belloli (represented by Raynard Swank), Mrs. H. M. Porterfield, Alan Covey, and Willis Kerr stressed the need for cooperation in carrying out a statewide project to preserve newspapers by microphotography, described existing centers for library photographic work in the state, and pointed out the numerous problems being encountered. A CLA committee to coordinate the conservation of newspaper resources was urged. A session on Public Relations and Publicity provided specific advice from Peter Shugart, public relations expert, on direct mail advertising, and a general discussion of publicity techniques. The Use of Bookmobiles was the topic of a group meeting led by Howard Rowe, Dorothy Roberts, and Coit Coolidge, stressing the substitution of mobile library units for branch buildings; costs, personnel, book stock, and circulation were among the aspects of operation considered. A fifth group, with Fred Wemmer, chairman, was concerned with the Reading Habits of California Librarians; discussion began with a report of a reading survey (to be more fully reported in the *California Library Bulletin*).

**SECTION MEETINGS, October 8.** The College and University Libraries Section, Dorothy Drake, chairman, transacted its annual business, and heard papers by Raynard Swank on university library surveys

and by David Davies on a survey made by the staff at Claremont. The Section on Work with Boys and Girls, with Lois Fannin, chairman, heard a talk by Helen Heffernan of the State Department of Education on her educational work with children in Japan, and one on trends in the publication of children's books by Elizabeth Hamilton of the William Morrow company; a business meeting was held at the morning session. The Junior Members Section elected officers, voted financial support to the Committee on Intellectual Freedom, agreed to provide volunteer aid to the Executive Secretary during rush seasons and to collect recruitment literature, and discussed the division of the section into northern and southern groups. The Trustees' Section, Mrs. Walter K. Knox, chairman, passed a resolution requesting the CLA to inaugurate a Public Library Week, heard an address by Dr. David J. Donnan on "The Trustees' Responsibility to the Library and the Community," discussed recruitment and the ALA convention, resolved to enlarge trustee membership in CLA, and elected new officers. The Municipal Libraries Section, Mary H. Murdoch, chairman, heard Peter T. Conny discuss "State Aid for Libraries," reviewing its history and current prospects and recommending united effort to obtain it; a business meeting followed.

**GENERAL SESSIONS.** First, October 6, 8:15 P.M., Howard Rowe, presiding. Greetings and reports. Second, October 7, 2:00 P.M.; sponsored by the Municipal Libraries Section, Mary Murdoch, presiding. The session gave a preview of an "Authors Meets the Readers" program, a series to be presented in southern California, devoted to an examination of contemporary American fiction. Kenneth Crossen, moderator, Dorothy B. Hughes, Margaret Millar, and Laurence Goldman discussed influences which affect writers, and a summary was presented by Delbert Jeffers. Third, October 7, 8:15 P.M., Miriam Matthews, chairman; sponsored by the Committee on Intellectual Freedom. A report of the Committee (summarized elsewhere in this issue) and a reading of resolutions relating to library censorship and to loyalty investigations were followed by an address, "Let Freedom Ring," by Dr. J. E. Wallace Sterling. Dr. Sterling emphasized the need to combat the present trend to censorship and suggested that communism cannot be overcome by suppression of the literature of the left; he said that those in public office who would deny the rights of

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Americans to free inquiry miss the essential lessons of history. **Fourth.** October 9, 9:20 A.M., Howard M. Rowe, presiding. The session was prefaced by a discussion, led by Donald Coney, of the proposed reorganization of the ALA, particularly as it would affect the CLA. Committees reported: Constitutional Revision (resolutions adopted); Library Standards (resolution adopted aligning CLA salary standards with those of ALA); Membership (gains of 122 regular and 2 institutional members reported); Intellectual Freedom (resolutions adopted protesting L A County Library censorship and repressive loyalty investigations); Resolutions (see below). Other business included an outline of plans for the 1949 Regional Meeting at Vancouver, by Edwin Coman; a reading of invitations from the cities of Sacramento and Long Beach to hold the 1949 and 1950 meetings of the CLA in those places; and an introduction of the new CLA president, Edwin T. Coman.

**BANQUET.** An introduction of CLA officers prefaced the annual banquet in El Paseo Restaurant, after which Dr. John Walton Caughey, Professor of American History at UCLA, spoke on "California's Intellectual Centennial" (printed elsewhere in this Bulletin). Dancing followed until 12:00 P.M.

**MUSIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,** October 8, Mrs. Helen Fitz-Richard, chairman. Before a joint session of the northern and southern chapters of the association Merle Bartlett discussed the cataloging of phonograph records, Earl Walker reported on records concerts at the San Francisco Public Library, and Mr. Morton, in his paper on "Film Music from Script to Screen," traced the development of film music from its inception to its synchronization with a motion picture.

**SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION,** Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Puget Sound chapters, October 9, Eva L. Robertson, chairman. The chief matter of discussion was the National SLA Convention to be held in Los Angeles on June 12-18, 1949. Harold Hamill spoke on the public relations aspect of the convention, indicating that publicity should be aimed at a special group, the employer. The importance of keeping SLA members fully informed regarding the meetings was stressed. Dr. Hazel Pulling, convention chairman, announced committee membership and revealed general plans for the coming meeting.

**RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT.** The gratitude of the CLA is expressed to the libraries and librarians of the state for meeting the challenges of a rapidly growing population; to trustees for their increased participation and service; to the Glendale Public Library for receiving the John Cotton Dana Publicity Award; to Mabel R. Gillis for her

leadership as State Librarian; to President Howard Rowe and the Executive Board for their Association leadership, culminating in a splendid convention; to Neal Harlow, editor of the *California Library Bulletin*, and his staff, particularly Eugene Hart, Lawrence Clark Powell, and Grace Murray, for their editorial work; to Mrs. Edna Yelland for faithfully performing the duties of the Executive Secretary; to district officers and to CLA committees for continuous Association work, particularly the Constitutional Revision Committee, under Edwin T. Coman, and the Committee on Intellectual Freedom, under Miriam Matthews; to the Junior Members Section for financial support of the Intellectual Freedom Committee; and to all those who contributed to the success of the 50th Annual Meeting.

The Resolutions Committee presented the following *Necrology for the Year 1947-48*: Henry H. Budington, died March 31, 1948; Mrs. Florence Easton Conable, August 21, 1948; Mrs. Edith Daly, January 13, 1948; Ernest Dawson, November 15, 1947; Grace I. Dick, January, 1948; Kitty B. Freed, July 5, 1947; Mrs. M. M. Gragg, July 1, 1948; Mrs. Elizabeth Hickenlooper Hebor, September 23, 1948; Edith M. Hawthorne, October 20, 1947; Flora Hodge, March, 1947; Mrs. Marie Fechet Kilburn, August 1, 1948; Eugenia Lacoste, August 28, 1948; Mrs. Karen Loynd, October 18, 1947; Lester Perry, May 28, 1948; Walter Pfeifle, May 7, 1948; Dorothy A. Pinneo, April 4, 1948; Dr. William Stirling Porter, March 24, 1948; Emmett C. Rittenhouse, January 12, 1948; Mrs. Anna M. Robinson, August 19, 1948; Ione Townsend, September 30, 1947; Mrs. Bess Ranton Yates, November 16, 1947; Mrs. Frances Harmon Zahn, December 25, 1947.

**OTHER RESOLUTIONS PASSED.** Presented by Intellectual Freedom Committee: *Resolution Protesting Loyalty Investigations*. Oct. 9, 1948.

Whereas it is evident that adequate safeguards already exist for the continued safety of our local, state, and national governments in peace and in war without subjecting all public employees to special loyalty investigations, and

Whereas loyalty investigations create an atmosphere of surveillance and suspicion, intimidate employees and impair the efficiency of the public service, and

Whereas misuse of such investigations inhibits freedom of opinion and expression and endangers not only the civil rights of public employees but the rights of all citizens to speak freely and to unite in support of their opinions, and

Whereas free expression and full access to ideas are properly the concern of all agencies of education, libraries as community centers for the provision of information and enlightenment;

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ement through the printed word are charged with special responsibility to insure to the public full freedom of inquiry and research into all points of view and to defend this right against unwarranted censorship and suppression.

Therefore the California Library Association, although recognizing no objection to the affirmation or reaffirmation of allegiance to our government by all loyal public employees, strongly protests all repressive loyalty investigations in California, such as those which require the disclosure of organizations to which an employee belongs or has belonged, since we believe this to be contrary to American principles of freedom and justice, insofar as it implies guilt by mere association, particularly in organizations which had not been found by competent authority—nor were even generally regarded—to be subversive at the time of the employee's membership.

It is recommended that copies of this resolution be sent to the proper governmental authorities, to the administrative officers and appropriate committees of the American Library Association, and to the presidents of all California Library Association Districts.

**Resolution on the Los Angeles County Library Censorship Committee.**

Whereas under our present system of library administration professional librarians are responsible for the selection of material on all sides even of controversial issues to insure to the public the right to form its own opinions on the basis of all available data, and

Whereas a lay board, however well-intentioned and well-informed, is not equipped and should not be requested to perform such an important professional function, and

Whereas censorship, even for apparently sound reasons, invariably leads to abuse and to restrictions on freedom of inquiry which is so urgently needed if we are to have an informed citizenry and maintain our democratic way of life,

Therefore be it resolved that the California Library Association in conference assembled at Santa Barbara, California, October 9, 1948, joins with the American Library Association in respectfully urging the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors strongly to reconsider its recent action and remove the threat of censorship from the Los Angeles County Library, since it is evident that any abridgment of the free access to ideas is contrary to the tradition and heritage of Americans, and

Be it further resolved that copies of this action be transmitted to each member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, to the appropriate officers of the American Library Association, and to the press.

**Summary of Resolution on Minimum Library Salaries Standards (Library Standards**

Committee): (1) That minimum annual beginning salaries for the lowest professional level position be not less than \$2800, minimum salaries for higher positions to be in proportion, with maximum salaries raised as minimums are increased. (2) That salaries for other classes of employees be at least equal to average of prevailing rates for equivalent positions in the region. (3) That \$3.00 per capita is the minimum public library income necessary to provide high quality service, \$2.25 being sufficient to provide only reasonably good service, and \$1.50 for limited or inadequate service. County-wide service calls for the per capita minimum from the whole population served, and service to school libraries requires more than the minimum standard. (4) Public libraries giving service on \$1.50 basis should spend 65% of budget for salaries, exclusive of maintenance, and 17.5% for books. (5) Minimum annual expenditures in institutions of higher education should be according to ALA Minimum Library Standards for 1948 (ALA Bulletin, March 1948, p.105, sec.6). (6) School librarians and professional assistants should be on same salary schedule as teachers with equal training and experience, with compensation not below minimum salary herein recommended for the lowest grade of professional library position. The minimum annual expenditure for books should be \$1.50 per pupil.

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